

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application. Please cancel claims 2, 7, and 12. Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 11, 13, 14, and 17 as follows:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A system for offering a financial instrument across different types of trading platforms, comprising:

a plurality of trading platforms, at least two of the trading platforms using different trading protocols for exchanging trading information, a trading protocol being a set of rules to enable computers to exchange trading information, the rules including types of messages sent between trading platforms; and

an interface for linking the trading platforms to allow an offering of a financial instrument that is initially being posted in one of the a sending trading platforms platform to be simultaneously offered in each of the trading platforms and a particular quantity of the offering to be purchased in any of the trading platforms, the offering being posted and sent as a quote message, the interface including an adapter for each of the trading platforms, each of the adapters allowing the interface to translate messages to the protocol of each of the other trading platforms,

~~wherein each of the at least two of the other trading platforms receives~~ receiving the posted offering using its respective trading protocol, a receiving trading platform sending back a quote acknowledgement message to the interface using its respective protocol, the interface

ensuring that the quote acknowledgement message in the receiving and sending platforms are in agreement.

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The system of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the quote acknowledgment message is generated after receipt of a trading request to purchase a specified quantity of a specified financial instrument at a specified price.

4. (currently amended) The system of claim [[2]] 1, wherein a trade is canceled if the quote acknowledgment message is not received within a predetermined time period.

5. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein a first trading platform includes a risk management component and a second trading platform includes a trading portal.

6. (original) The system of claim 1, further including a reporting component for reporting transaction information associated with trading activity.

7. (cancelled)

8. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the interface ensures that offering information is uniform in each of the trading platforms.

9. (original) The system of claim 8, wherein a change of pricing information in one of the trading platforms causes a corresponding pricing information change in other of the trading platforms.

10. (original) The system of claim 8, wherein a change of quantity information in one of the trading platforms causes a corresponding quantity information change in other of the trading platforms.

11. (currently amended) A method for offering a financial instrument across different types of trading platforms, at least two of the trading platforms using different trading protocols for exchanging trading information, a trading protocol being a set of rules to enable computers to exchange trading information, the rules including types of messages sent between trading platforms, comprising the steps of:

posting an offering of a financial instrument initially in one of the a sending trading platforms platform as a quote message; and

sending the offering as a quote message to each of the other trading platforms;

translating the posted offering from the protocol of the sending trading platform into the protocol of each of the other trading platforms;

displaying the posted offering simultaneously in each of the other trading platforms so as to allow a particular quantity of the offering to be purchased in any of the trading platforms[.];

receiving in wherein each of the ~~at least two of the~~ other trading platforms receives the posted offering using its respective trading protocol[.];

sending back from each of the other trading platforms a quote acknowledgement using its respective protocol; and

ensuring that the quote acknowledgement message in the receiving and sending platforms are in agreement.

12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) The method of claim [[12]] 11, wherein the quote acknowledgment message is generated after receipt of a trading request to purchase a specified quantity of a specified financial instrument at a specified price.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim [[12]] 11, wherein a trade is canceled if the quote acknowledgment message is not received within a predetermined time period.

15. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein a first trading platform includes a risk management component and a second trading platform includes a trading portal.

16. (original) The method of claim 11, further including the step of reporting transaction information associated with trading activity.

17. (currently amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable on the machine to perform method steps for offering a financial instrument across different types of trading platforms, at least two of the trading

platforms using different trading protocols for exchanging trading information, a trading protocol being a set of rules to enable computers to exchange trading information, the rules including types of messages sent between trading platforms, the method steps comprising:

posting an offering of a financial instrument initially in one of the a sending trading platforms platform; and

sending the offering as a quote message to each of the other trading platforms;

translating the posted offering from the protocol of the sending trading platform into the protocol of each of the other trading platforms;

displaying the posted offering simultaneously in each of the other trading platforms so as to allow a particular quantity of the offering to be purchased in any of the trading platforms[[,]];

receiving in wherein each of the ~~at least two of the other~~ trading platforms receives the posted offering using its respective trading protocol[[.]];

sending back from each of other trading platforms a quote acknowledgement using its respective protocol; and

ensuring that the quote acknowledgement message in the sending and receiving platforms are in agreement.